



Dear Neighbor,

Over the past year, I have received a tremendous amount of correspondence from citizens across the entire 49th District in regards to Indiana's property tax situation. As you know, the main focus of this session was property tax reform, and I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the property tax legislation that was recently passed.

We passed House Enrolled Act 1001 at the end of session, marking the largest property tax cut in state history. This plan will result in immediate property tax relief on a county-wide average of 25 percent for all property taxpayers in 2008 and almost 32 percent in 2009, providing almost \$900 million of additional property tax relief in 2008. HEA 1001 provides circuit-breaker protection for all classes of taxpayers and will be phased in completely by 2010 at 1 percent for homesteads, 2 percent for agricultural and rental property, and 3 percent for business property. In addition, HEA 1001 includes added protections for seniors, disabled and low-income Hoosiers.

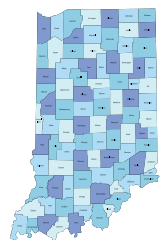
Another important provision in HEA 1001 places controls on local spending. To allow citizens to become more involved in local government decisions that will impact their property tax bills, HEA 1001 requires a referendum on certain capital building projects, including schools.

Some of the greatest concerns with this property tax reform package have focused on decrease in funding for schools and local governments. Education and public safety are obviously valuable resources for our communities, and HEA 1001 included provisions to make sure these services will not be crippled.

While HEA 1001 is not perfect, it is a huge step to restructuring the tax system and moving away from our reliance on property taxes. I truly believe this plan would have looked much different if it weren't for Hoosiers like yourself that took the time to voice your opinion. This is a great example of the type of positive change that is possible when citizens become involved in the legislative process. If you have any questions regarding the provisions passed in HEA 1001 and SJR 1 or any other bill, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John Ulmer  
State Representative



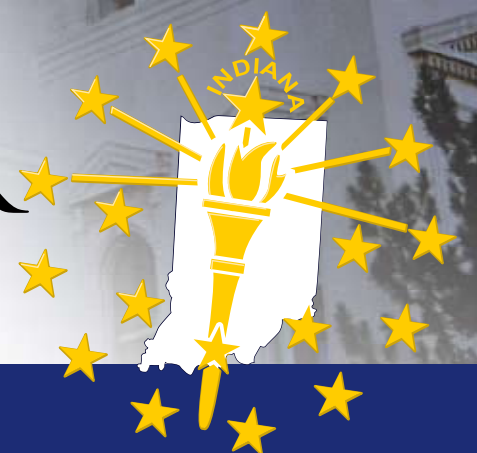
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**John Ulmer**  
HOUSE DISTRICT 49  
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# HOOSIERS *demand* *property tax* REFORM.

## State Rep JOHN ULMER *delivered.*







# Immediate Relief. PERMANENT Reform.

The General Assembly's property tax plan, outlined by Gov. Daniels and the House Republicans' Standards for Success, created the largest property tax cut in state history. The plan offers Hoosier taxpayers immediate relief and the promise of permanent reform.

## Help for Hoosier homeowners.

- Homeowners will see \$620 million in immediate relief for 2008.
- \$1 billion has been removed from property tax levies.
- Referenda empower voters to control or allow spending.
- \$140 million of relief is planned for 2009, and \$80 million of relief in 2010.

## Help for all Hoosier property-tax payers.

- The plan cuts now and forwards the process to cap property taxes forever through a constitutional guarantee of permanent caps of 1 percent of assessed value for homesteads, 2 percent for rental and agricultural properties and 3 percent for all others.
- The plan closes loopholes that allowed more government spending.

## Help for local governments.

- At the county level, the costs of four child-welfare levies, juvenile incarceration and health care for the indigent are removed from property taxes.
- At the municipal level, it removes from property taxes the remaining pre-1977 police and fire pensions, and it includes support for police and fire services.

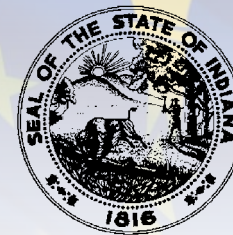
## Help for Hoosier schools.

- The plan removes school operations and special education preschool costs from property taxes.
- It also includes \$120 million in circuit-breaker relief and increases the tuition reserve fund money to \$400 million

## Help for low-income Hoosiers.

- The plan includes an overall decrease in taxes for many low-income taxpayers, renters, low-income senior-citizen homeowners and the disabled.

*Well before the session  
began ...we wanted the  
best results for  
Hoosier taxpayers,  
not Hoosier  
tax-spenders.*



State Representative  
**John Ulmer**

I have always valued your input, thoughts, concerns and ideas. Here is some important contact information to reach me directly, as well as other important contact information you may find helpful:

## Contact Representative Ulmer

Statehouse Office:	800-382-9841
E-mail Address:	<a href="mailto:h49@iga.in.gov">h49@iga.in.gov</a>
Web site:	<a href="http://www.in.gov/h49">www.in.gov/h49</a>
Mailing Address:	200 W. Washington St. Room 401-4 Indianapolis, IN 46204

## Important Numbers

State Information Center	800-457-8283
Federal Information Center	800-688-9889
Indiana House	800-382-9841
Indiana Senate	800-382-9467
Gov. Mitch Daniels	317-232-4567
Sec. of State Todd Rokita	317-232-6531

## Property Tax Relief, BUT WHAT ELSE?

The overarching goal of this legislative session was property tax relief. Before the session began, my main goal was to find a way to completely eliminate property taxes for homeowners. We were able to successfully give homeowners an average, immediate 25-percent cut. While property tax relief got the most attention this year, we were able to pass other important legislation that will affect Hoosiers.

### House Enrolled Act 1036:

I authored a bill that makes it necessary for those who have been caught without car insurance to prove in the future that they are insured. There are numerous uninsured drivers on the roads throughout Indiana. I am confident that when this becomes law, the follow-up will dramatically reduce the number of those who drive without insurance. HEA 1036 will allow authorities to randomly send letters to those who have been caught without insurance in the past, requiring them to prove they are currently insured. If they are not insured at the time of the letter, their licenses will be suspended. These letters can be sent up to five years after the person was initially found to be without insurance.

### House Enrolled Act 1271:

This law requires violent inmates to serve the majority of their sentences. Under current law, well-behaved inmates generally would serve only half of their sentences, receiving one day off for every good day served. Allowing time off for good behavior is an important tool to help ensure control and safety, but for some crimes, serving only half the time is not fair to the victims. Now, certain violent offenders will serve 85 percent of their sentences, no matter how good their behavior may be.

### Senate Joint Resolution 7:

The Defense of Marriage constitutional amendment did not pass this year because, in my opinion, the House leadership is opposed to this amendment receiving a vote by the full House. Since the House Democrats are in the majority, they set the legislative agenda. I fully support marriage being between one man and one woman, and I will continue to vote that way every chance I get. Unfortunately, the process of amending the constitution will have to begin again, which means the earliest Hoosiers would be allowed to vote on this important measure is 2011.